1 Since launching at the PHIN Conference in 2008, the PHIN Communities of

2 Practice have been hard at work to advance their various domains. Through

3 collaboration, community members are increasing their ability to accomplish their

4 work in a more timely, cost effective manner, while profiting from a network of

5 knowledgeable colleagues who offer fresh ideas and innovative ways to solve

6 challenges.

7

8 Members of these communities now share in their own words how their

9 communities have impacted them.

10

11 "I think the community stimulates ideas, its not just learning what the other person

12 is doing its really bouncing ideas off one another and having an aha moment. It's

13 getting people to collaborate on a daily basis and to look outside of their work to

14 gain a different perspective."

15

16 "You get a lot of different ways of approaching solutions to very similar problems

17 by bringing the community together to discuss the particular needs and goals they

18 are trying to accomplish."

19

20 "We saw the direction the CoPs were going and became convinced that this was

21 the direction we wanted our group to go in as well. We saw not only the ability to

22 sustain the existing membership, but also the potential to grow in a number of

23 other areas, including avenues we had yet to pursue. What impressed me most was

24 a sense of commitment from CDC to ensure we succeeded."

25

26 "I think that the PHIN Communities of Practice are still new and are continuously

27 improving processes to become more and more successful as they grow. They will

28 become known as a great method for disseminating information, sharing best

29 practices, and problem resolution throughout the PHIN community and public

30 health informatics."

31

32 "The Vocabulary & Messaging Community of Practice provides a forum for

33 external agencies to freely communicate about implementation. This allows CDC

34 to reuse the work that has already been completed by other agencies. Because of

35 this collaboration, we have been able to save both time and money for several

36 projects."

37

38 "There is a great deal of trust among the community members because people want

39 to be there and share their ideas. We're all eager to learn from each other."

40

41 "We want to synchronize our work with other groups and learn from them, and

42 also help enhance visibility for the great work that is already being accomplished."

43

44 "The Communications and Alerting Community of Practice has given states a bi-

45 directional voice, a feedback loop to CDC. It gives peers a forum to bounce ideas

46 and plans off of people -- it's an excellent way to re-purpose good work."

47

48 "The satisfaction I see with small gains just by helping to simplify the lives of the

49 folks that are out there in public health in the States is tremendous."

50

51 "I like having access to a community of knowledgeable informatics and public

52 health professionals with whom I can discuss ideas and differing perspectives."

53

54   "Hardly a day goes by that I don't do something related to the CoP or talk to

55   someone about a community project. The Communications and Alerting CoP

56   brings the national perspective much closer to home, and gives credibility to the

57   work that we are doing at a state level."

58

59   The success of a community flows from the efforts of its members. As

60   communities develop and grow, the members gain personal and professional

61   benefit from working together to meet their common goals.

62

63   Share.

64

65   Collaborate.

66

67   Learn.

68

69   Join the PHIN Communities of Practice.

70

71

72

73

74 **Full Quotes**

75

76 The Vocabulary & Messaging Community of Practice provides a forum for

77 external agencies to freely communicate about implementation. This allows CDC

78 to reuse the work that has already been completed by other agencies. Because of

79 this collaboration, we have been able to save both time and money for several

80 projects. Sundak Ganesan, Vocabulary and Messaging Community of Practice

81

82 I think that the communities of practice provide common ground and the ability for

83 various groups to communicate and share with one other. Chuck Berning,

84 Communications and Alerting Community of Practice

85

86 The Communications and Alerting Community of Practice (CACoP) has given

87 states and cooperative agreement jurisdictions a bi-directional voice, a feedback

88 loop to CDC. It gives peers a forum to bounce ideas and plans off of people -- it's

89 an excellent way to re-purpose good work. Kevin Cradock, Oregon Division of

90 Public Health, Communications and Alerting Community of Practice

91

92 There is great deal of trust among the community members because people want to

93 be there and share their ideas. We are all doing similar work, and innovative work,

94 where we are branching out and taking our public health departments in places

95 where they have never been before. We are all eager to learn from each other. Jane

96 Herwehe, IL Community of Practice

97

98 I am relatively new to Public Health Informatics so I am thirsty for the opportunity

99 to learn from those that have more experience. I like having access to

100 a community of knowledgeable informatics and public health professionals with

101 whom I can discuss ideas and differing perspectives. That's one of the main

102 reasons I participate in the InfoLinks Community of Practice. Jane Herwehe, IL

103 Community of Practice

104

105 We provide an opportunity for members to learn, share, and collaborate which

106 helps to make the Laboratory and Messaging community successful. Jon Lipsky,

107 LM Community of Practice

108

109 You get a lot of different ways of approaching solutions to very similar problems

110 by bringing the Vocabulary and Messaging CoP together to discuss the particular

111 needs and goals they are trying to accomplish. Jim Case, Vocabulary and

112 Messaging Community of Practice

113

114 I think that the PHIN Communities of Practice are still new and are continuously

115 improving processes to become more and more successful as they grow. They will

116 become known as a great method for disseminating information, sharing best

117 practices, and problem resolution throughout the PHIN community and public

118 health informatics. John McLamb, IL Community of Practice

119

120 My job is to work with the States and because of this, I understand their dilemmas.

121 Each time the states are asked by CDC to do things a little bit different, it greatly

122 impacts them. The satisfaction I see with small gains just by helping to simplify the

123 lives of the folks that are out there in public health in the States is tremendous. I

124 really do believe that, and this community can really help with that process. Jon

125 Lipsky, LM Community of Practice

126

127   We saw the direction the CoPs were going and became convinced that this was the

128   direction we wanted our group to go in as well. We saw not only the ability to

129   sustain the existing membership, but also the potential to grow in a number of

130   other areas, including avenues we had yet to pursue. What impressed me most was

131   a sense of commitment from CDC to ensure we succeeded. We were able to get the

132   tools we needed and realized the CACoP was something all of us would profit

133   from. Chuck Berning, Communications and Alerting Community of Practice

134

135   Hardly a day goes by that I don't do something related to the CoP or talk to

136   someone about a community project. The Communications and Alerting CoP

137   brings the national perspective much closer to home, and gives credibility to the

138   work that we are doing at a state level. Myrlah Olson, Communications and

139   Alerting Community of Practice

140

141   We want to synchronize our work with other groups and learn from them, and also

142   help enhance visibility for the great work that is already being accomplished. JA

143   Magnuson, LM Community of Practice

144

145

146   I think the community stimulates ideas. It's not just learning what the other person

147   is doing; it's really bouncing ideas off one other or having an "Aha!" moment. It is

148   getting people to collaborate on a daily basis and to look outside of their work to

149   gain a different perspective. Riki Merrick, VM Community of Practice

150